**BEFORE** 

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 93-069-C - ORDER NO. 93-175

FEBRUARY 18, 1993

IN RE: Heath Springs Telephone Company - Compliance Audit

) ORDER

) GRANTING

RECONSIDERATION

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the February 11, 1993 request for reconsideration of our Order No. 93-96, by W. H. Bridges, the President of Heath Springs Telephone Company (Heath Springs).

Among other things, in Order No. 93-96, this Commission ordered Heath Springs to refund the amount of \$9,012 to its customers along with interest at the rate of 12% per annum. Mr. Bridges requests reconsideration of this portion of the order on several grounds. First, Bridges states that the charges involved related to purely optional and discretionary services, not basic local service; 2) Bridges stated the customers of Heath Springs received the benefit of the services during the time in question; 3) Bridges stated that the rates charged for each and every service at issue were found to warrant approval by the Commission indicating and proving that the rates and charges were all fair and reasonable; 4) Bridges stated that charging the rates and charges without prior Commission approval was inadvertent and

unintentional; and 5) Bridges alleges that the customers selecting the services have not objected to the charges.

The Commission has examined the reasoning of Mr. Bridges and believes that the Petition for Reconsideration should be granted based on the statement of Mr. Bridges as listed above. Further, because of this reasoning, the Commission hereby rescinds that portion of Order No. 93-96 which ordered Heath Springs to refund the amount of \$9,012 to its customers along with interest at the rate of 12% per annum.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Reconsideration of Order No. 93-96 is hereby granted.
- 2. That portion of Order No. 93-96 which ordered Heath Springs to refund the amount of \$9,012 to its customers along with interest at the rate of 12% per annum is hereby rescinded.
- 3. That this Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

(SEAL)